

...FEBRUARY 2012 REGIONAL CLIMATE SUMMARY...

SUMMARY FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA AND MONTEREY BAY AREA...

THE WEATHER DURING FEBRUARY 2012 WAS UNEVENTFUL AND MOSTLY TRANQUIL. AVERAGE TEMPERATURES FOR THE MONTH WERE CLOSE TO NORMAL. AVERAGE HIGH TEMPERATURES WERE A BIT ABOVE NORMAL AND AVERAGE LOWS WERE SLIGHTLY COOLER THAN NORMAL. THE DRY WEATHER PATTERN THAT HAS DOMINATED MOST OF THE 2011-2012 RAINY SEASON CONTINUED. ALTHOUGH MEASURABLE PRECIPITATION OCCURRED ON SEVERAL FEBRUARY DAYS...RAINFALL AMOUNTS WERE MOSTLY LIGHT.

FOR MOST OF THE FIRST TEN DAYS OF FEBRUARY AN UPPER LEVEL RIDGE HELD FIRM ALONG THE WEST COAST. HIGH TEMPERATURES WERE WARMER THAN NORMAL ON EIGHT OUT OF THOSE TEN DAYS. THE WEATHER WAS ALSO DRY DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME EXCEPT LATE ON THE 6TH AND EARLY ON THE 7TH WHEN A WEAK WEATHER SYSTEM GENERATED LIGHT AMOUNTS OF RAIN.

THE UPPER LEVEL RIDGE THAT PRODUCED DRY AND MILD WEATHER DURING THE FIRST PART OF FEBRUARY RETREATED OFFSHORE OVER THE EASTERN PACIFIC DURING THE MIDDLE PART OF THE MONTH. THIS ALLOWED A SERIES OF COOL WEATHER SYSTEMS IN THE GULF OF ALASKA TO DROP SOUTH ALONG THE WEST COAST...PRODUCING A PERIOD OF COOL AND UNSETTLED WEATHER DURING THE THE MIDDLE THIRD OF THE MONTH. MOST OF THESE WEATHER SYSTEMS CONTAINED VERY LITTLE MOISTURE AND RAINFALL AMOUNTS WERE GENERALLY LIGHT. THE EXCEPTION WAS ON THE 13TH WHEN MODERATE AMOUNTS OF RAIN FELL IN SOME LOCATIONS. SNOW FELL AT THE HIGHER ELEVATIONS ON THE 13TH. NEARLY 5 INCHES OF SNOW WAS REPORTED AT THE LICK OBSERVATORY ATOP MOUNT HAMILTON THAT DAY.

THE UPPER RIDGE OVER THE EASTERN PACIFIC BUILT BACK OVER CALIFORNIA FROM THE 22ND THROUGH THE 24TH. HIGH PRESSURE ALONG WITH LIGHT TO MODERATE DRY OFFSHORE BREEZES RESULTED IN THREE DAYS OF BALMY WEATHER ACROSS THE REGION WITH DAYTIME TEMPERATURES CLIMBING INTO THE 70S IN MOST AREAS...AND INTO THE LOWER 80S IN SOME OF THE WARMEST VALLEY LOCATIONS. SEVERAL DAILY HIGH TEMPERATURES RECORDS WERE SET OR TIED FROM THE 22ND THROUGH THE 24TH. THIS WARM SPELL DIDN'T LAST LONG. BY THE 25TH...THE RIDGE HAD ONCE AGAIN RETREATED TO THE WEST...OPENING A PATH FOR MORE COOL WEATHER SYSTEMS FROM THE NORTHWEST. THE STRONGEST OF THESE SYSTEMS BROUGHT MODERATE RAINFALL TO MUCH OF THE AREA ON THE FINAL DAY OF THE MONTH. THE 29TH WAS THE WETTEST DAY OF THE MONTH IN MOST LOCATIONS. IN FACT...SOME CLIMATE STATIONS RECEIVED NEARLY HALF OF THEIR ENTIRE FEBRUARY RAINFALL ON THE 29TH. EVEN SO...RAIN TOTALS THAT DAY WERE NOT ALL THAT IMPRESSIVE...RANGING MOSTLY FROM 0.25 TO 0.75 INCHES AT LOWER ELEVATIONS AND FROM 1 TO 2 INCHES IN THE HILLS.

BECAUSE MOST PRECIPITATION EVENTS WERE LIGHT...PRECIPITATION TOTALS FOR FEBRUARY WERE ONLY AROUND A QUARTER TO A THIRD OF THE MONTHLY NORMAL. SOME LOCATIONS ACCUMULATED AS LITTLE AS 15% OF NORMAL. HAD 2012 NOT BEEN A LEAP YEAR...FEBRUARY'S PRECIPITATION TOTALS WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN MORE AUSTERE. THE WETTEST SPOTS IN FEBRUARY WERE THE HIGHER ELEVATION LOCATIONS. BOTH THE MOUNT DIABLO JUNCTION AND MOUNT HAMILTON CLIMATE STATIONS PICKED UP NEARLY HALF THEIR NORMAL

FEBRUARY RAINFALL.

MEASURABLE RAIN FELL ON NEARLY TWICE AS MANY DAYS IN FEBRUARY AS IN JANUARY. EVEN SO...RAIN TOTALS FOR FEBRUARY WERE SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN IN JANUARY...ONLY ABOUT A THIRD TO HALF OF THE JANUARY TOTALS AT MANY CLIMATE STATIONS.

ALTHOUGH FEBRUARY WAS A DRY MONTH...IT WASN'T NEARLY AS DRY AS THIS PAST DECEMBER...WHICH WAS ONE OF THE DRIEST DECEMBERS ON RECORD.

SEASON-TO-DATE (JULY 1-FEBRUARY 29) RAINFALL TOTALS FOR THE FIRST 8 MONTHS OF THE RAINY SEASON WERE GENERALLY FROM 30 TO 50 PERCENT OF NORMAL. SEASON-TO-DATE TOTALS RANGED FROM A LOW OF 27 PERCENT OF NORMAL AT SAN JOSE TO A HIGH OF 62 PERCENT OF NORMAL AT SALINAS. DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO'S SEASON-TO-DATE TOTAL OF 7.14 INCHES WAS 40 PERCENT OF NORMAL AND REPRESENTED THE 7TH LOWEST RAINFALL TOTAL FOR THE FIRST 8 MONTHS OF THE RAINY SEASON. SAN FRANCISCO RAINFALL RECORDS DATE BACK TO 1849.

...FEBRUARY REGIONAL TEMPERATURE SUMMARY...

LOCATION	AVG HIGH	NORMAL HIGH	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL		AVG LOW	NORMAL LOW	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	

NORTH BAY...

ANGWIN	56.7	56.2	0.5		38.9	39.8	-0.9	
CALISTOGA	65.2	62.9	2.3		35.6	39.0	-3.4	
KENTFIELD	61.4	59.9	1.5		42.2	43.2	-1.0	
NAPA	65.1	62.2	2.9		39.5	41.9	-2.4	
NAPA AIRPORT	62.9	59.6	3.3		35.8	38.6	-2.8	
PETALUMA AIRPORT	62.7	61.6	1.1		39.0	40.9	-1.9	
SAINT HELENA	64.4	62.0	2.4		40.8	40.8	0.0	
SAN RAFAEL	62.1	58.8	3.3		42.5	43.8	-1.3	
SANTA ROSA	65.6	63.2	2.4		38.3	41.3	-3.0	
SANTA ROSA AP	64.0	60.5	3.5		38.3	39.1	-0.8	
SONOMA	63.3	61.5	1.8		38.7	39.9	-1.2	

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA...

HALF MOON BAY	59.3	60.0	-0.7		40.5	42.2	-1.7	
REDWOOD CITY	63.0	61.6	1.4		41.4	42.7	-1.3	
SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT	59.5	59.5	0.0		45.1	46.3	-1.2	
SAN FRANCISCO DOWNTOWN	60.4	60.2	0.2		47.4	47.5	-0.1	

EAST BAY...

CONCORD AIRPORT	63.1	61.0	2.1		40.2	42.8	-2.6	
FREMONT	62.3	61.6	0.7		42.8	44.3	-1.5	

HAYWARD AIRPORT	61.2	60.2	1.0	43.4	45.3	-1.9
LIVERMORE	63.0	61.0	2.0	40.6	41.5	-0.9
LIVERMORE AP	63.2	60.4	2.8	39.8	40.4	-0.6
MARTINEZ	60.3	60.9	-0.6	38.4	38.1	0.3
MOUNT DIABLO						
JUNCTION	56.7	56.6	0.1	40.7	40.3	0.4
NEWARK	62.0	61.1	0.9	44.5	45.2	-0.7
OAKLAND	63.6	61.6	2.0	46.0	46.8	-0.8
OAKLAND AIRPORT	60.3	59.9	0.4	42.2	44.2	-2.0

SOUTH BAY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY...

BEN LOMOND	69.1	63.6	5.5	36.6	39.0	-2.4
GILROY	66.5	64.3	2.2	40.6	40.9	-0.3
MOFFETT FIELD	63.1	61.8	1.3	44.1	45.3	-1.2
MOUNT HAMILTON	48.9	48.1	0.8	35.8	37.5	-1.7
SAN JOSE	64.0	61.9	2.1	43.6	44.7	-1.1
SANTA CRUZ	65.2	64.2	1.0	40.4	43.3	-2.9
WATSONVILLE	64.3	62.7	1.6	39.5	42.1	-2.6
WATSONVILLE AP	65.2	61.4	3.8	42.5	42.3	0.2

MONTEREY AND SAN BENITO COUNTIES...

CARMEL VALLEY	63.9	63.5	0.4	39.4	40.8	-1.4
HOLLISTER	63.1	62.8	0.3	40.1	41.1	-1.0
KING CITY	66.8	66.0	0.8	38.0	40.2	-2.2
MONTEREY	59.7	59.6	0.1	44.3	44.7	-0.4
MONTEREY AIRPORT	60.3	60.7	-0.4	43.9	44.7	-0.8
PINNACLES NAT MON	62.6	63.0	-0.4	30.3	M	M
SALINAS	65.1	63.9	1.2	40.3	41.5	-1.2
SALINAS AIRPORT	64.2	62.8	1.4	42.0	43.2	-1.2

...FEBRUARY REGIONAL PRECIPITATION SUMMARY...

LOCATION	FEB TOTAL	NORMAL FEB PRECIP	PERCENT OF NORMAL
----------	--------------	-------------------------	----------------------

NORTH BAY...

ANGWIN	2.26	7.75	29
CALISTOGA	2.82	7.79	36
CLOVERDALE	2.33	7.80	30
FORT ROSS	2.21	6.46	34
KENTFIELD	2.32	9.12	25
NAPA	1.50	5.35	28
NAPA AIRPORT	1.28	3.79	34
OCCIDENTAL	3.00	9.95	30
PETALUMA AIRPORT	1.26	5.32	24
SAINT HELENA	2.18	7.36	30
SAN RAFAEL	1.76	7.10	25
SANTA ROSA	2.16	6.02	36
SONOMA COUNTY AP	1.88	6.40	29

SONOMA	1.23	5.95	21
SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA...			
HALF MOON BAY	0.89	5.19	17
REDWOOD CITY	1.00	3.96	25
SAN FRANCISCO			
AIRPORT	0.66	4.06	16
SAN FRANCISCO			
DOWNTOWN	1.09	4.46	24
EAST BAY...			
CONCORD	1.21	3.70	33
CONCORD AIRPORT	1.08	3.34	32
FREMONT	0.82	3.17	26
HAYWARD AIRPORT	0.68	3.47	20
LIVERMORE	0.52	2.88	18
LIVERMORE AIRPORT	0.62	3.03	20
MARTINEZ	1.07	3.91	27
MOUNT DIABLO			
JUNCTION	2.10	4.62	45
NEWARK	0.61	2.92	21
OAKLAND	0.81	4.50	18
OAKLAND AIRPORT	0.81	3.95	21
SOUTH BAY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY...			
BEN LOMOND	3.09	9.90	31
GILROY	1.07	4.13	26
LOS GATOS	0.95	4.87	20
MOFFETT FIELD	0.75	3.07	24
MOUNT HAMILTON	2.08	4.46	47
SAN JOSE	0.63	3.11	20
SANTA CRUZ	0.94	6.24	15
WATSONVILLE	0.65	4.68	14
WATSONVILLE AP	0.91	4.24	21
MONTEREY AND SAN BENITO COUNTIES...			
CARMEL VALLEY	1.24	3.89	32
HOLLISTER	0.48	2.74	18
KING CITY	0.46	2.51	18
MONTEREY	0.86	3.92	22
MONTEREY AIRPORT	0.68	3.07	22
PINNACLES NAT MON	1.03	3.38	30
SALINAS	0.92	2.98	31
SALINAS AIRPORT	0.83	2.49	33

...DAILY TEMPERATURE RECORDS FOR FEBRUARY 2012...

		RECORD MAXIMUM TEMP	PREVIOUS RECORD
2/22	SANTA ROSA	79	77 IN 1985
2/22	SANTA CRUZ	79	76 IN 1990
2/22	LIVERMORE	78	76 IN 2002
2/22	MOFFETT FEDERAL AIRFIELD	77	77 IN 1985
2/23	SANTA ROSA	80	78 IN 1985
2/23	OAKLAND MUSEUM	78	78 IN 1985
2/24	KING CITY	84	81 IN 1954

...MONTHLY RANKS FOR DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO...

AVERAGE HIGH TEMPERATURE.....60.4.....37TH WARMEST OUT OF 136 YEARS
 AVERAGE LOW TEMPERATURE.....47.4.....64TH COOLEST OUT OF 136 YEARS
 PRECIPITATION..... 1.09 IN.....31ST DRIEST OUT OF 162 YEARS

...MONTHLY EXTREMES FOR SELECT LOCATIONS...

LOCATION	WARMEST DAY(S)	COOLEST DAY(S)	WETTEST DAY(S)
SANTA ROSA AIRPORT	2/22 80 DEG	2/27 27 DEG	2/07 0.66 IN
SAN FRANCISCO	2/24 72 DEG	2/26 2/27 42 DEG	2/13 0.30 IN
SAN JOSE	2/22 77 DEG	2/28 36 DEG	2/29 0.24 IN
SALINAS AIRPORT	2/09 2/24 77 DEG	2/26 34 DEG	2/13 2/29 0.30 IN

NOTE: THIS CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA IS PRELIMINARY. FOR OFFICIAL
 CERTIFIED CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA PLEASE CONTACT THE NATIONAL
 CLIMATIC DATA CENTER AT 828-271-4800 OR <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov>.
 OFFICIAL VALUES AS DETERMINED AT THE ABOVE WEB SITE MAY TAKE
 SEVERAL MONTHS FOR AUTHENTICATION AND PUBLICATION.

\$\$

DYKEMA